

Now it is immediately perceptible, that a difficulty arises in the construction of this last clause in the section, from the use of the word "claim" there. What does "claim" mean in this connexion mean? Does it mean simply the assertion of a right to a person by a slave-owner? or does it include the proof necessary to show that that assertion is founded in truth and justice? If only the first, then the liberty of every freeman in the land, of whatever color and complexion, is at the mercy of any person who may be unscrupulous enough to affirm him to be his slave, on the chance of the provisions of our

tion committed by the persons, who, in constructing the Constitution, have so solemnly sworn that the liberty of a citizen shall not though he may happen to be seized in a place where he is unknown, on the claim of a slave-owner. The writ of personal replevin, that of *habeas corpus* and the right of trial by jury, all invaluable privileges of the citizen, fall a dead letter before the emblem of a careless or a scrupulous magistrate and a crafty kidnapper—it is to be feared that a decision cannot be so founded, which, in republican America, shall bring us to such results as these. Irrevocable, very true, in the opinion given by the judges to justify their decision.

Supporting, for example, that a colorist, a crafter of Mischmetz's, should leave his home where he is known, to go to distant place in pursuit of work. Supporting that a crafty kidnapper should have his progress, and, in an onward direction, should seize him and make oath before the justice of the peace that he was a slave, the effect of this movement would be at once to strike from under him the only support he has, and to condemn him to a life of hardships and those cruellest of the institution. He would be at the mercy of the magistrate, who might be prejudiced, and, not wishing us to be harmed, but even so, the most honest magistrate is truly required to see that a *prima facie* case, "such as up-

7. "In suits of common law, where the issue is *controversy* shall exceed twenty years, the right of trial by jury shall not be abridged; and in suits at law, shall not be taken away in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law. Above the value of a man claimed by another as his slave, resulting from language, were to be considered a animal, he would be entitled by the seventh amendment clause quoted, to a public trial by a jury. If he were regarded as a human being, the value of his services, and his heirs, still by the seventh amendment, the fact of ownership would require the judgment of a jury. In point of fact, how-

in this is but a part of the picture. In secured this difficulty in the construction of an important part of the Federal constitution, which was the basis of the Government of a free man, Governor Miffin submitted to President Washington all the facts of the case, and the President decided in Congress. The result was the introduction of a bill which did indeed provide against a similar case, but it was not so broad as that which also embraced a new and wholly different way of directing the manner of recovering a slave. It was an unwise idea to receive, but it was a commendable one to preserve the history of the country will show it to them, that even the best legislation has not it sufficient to satisfy the public mind, and either when the upholders of domestic slavery have arisen to impose inordinate restrictions upon the rights of the States which do not, within their limits, sanction that institution. The use of which in the hearing, furnishes a striking example of the same principle. The original recommendation of President Washington relied solely on the subject of the fugitive slave, and not on the slave himself. It had grown out of an unpunished offence against the liberty of a freeman. It was not a case of a slave, but of a citizen in a similar accident. But the law did not go to the two Houses of Congress without the passage of a clause which was not in the original bill. The slave could not consent to be sold, and the law was not to facilitate the surrender or wien guilty of engaging their fellows without giving a quid pro quo. The more the more the slave, however, without the intervention of the or-

*Continued on Fourth Page.*

*Continued on Fourth Page.*





Mr. Wade has failed to secure the reception of the resolutions of the Vermont Legislature. A single House refusing to receive the resolutions of a Legislature!

#### Confessors.

It is pleasing to hear the honest confessions of those who have abandoned the old professions. Said a gentleman not long since: "I had belonged to the democrats, 'my conscience troubled me, and I struggled against it as long as I could, but last fall I broke away from it, and voted the liberty ticket. I rejoice in it—this was the best vote I ever cast." "Never will I look back again to that corruption!"

A very intelligent man in another part of the State recently made similar remarks.

"We doubt not others would find their consciences equally satisfactory."

#### Is This So?

A gentleman in the country, when sending the name of the fifth new subscriber to the Standard, writes as follows:

Dear Sir—I find by a little observation, that we liberty men are in the fault in referring to the present scanty circulation of the Liberty Standard. Now, Sir, I will state, that with concert of action among liberty men, your list of subscribers may easily be doubled in three months; and now I am going to do it, if ever, before the next year. Whigs and democrats get their party machinery in full operation for 1844.

From a good deal of observation, we have not a doubt of the correctness of the above opinion, and could all the professed friends of our cause, but find the importance of furnishing the people now with substantial reading, we should not long labor under present embarrassments. Will not the friends in each town forthwith enter into concert of action, and take hold of this matter with a zeal proportioned to its importance? This is the time, before the coming spring calls to other labor. Our cause cannot be doubled again without more substantial reading. Present prospects are encouraging. We have received about new subscribers within the last week.

How shall it be next week?

Report of the Committee on Anti-Slavery Petitions.

The Legislature of this state have ordered copies of this report published. We do not mean to review it this week, but should say that the report is sophisticated, and reckless of the great principles of humanity, and insulting to the petitioners.

It declares unqualifiedly that the constitution binds the state as a whole, and each citizen as severally, under the strongest obligation to assist in the delivery of the fugitive slave;—that congress has the power to use every officer of the state from the Governor downward, and every citizen in fact the entire resources of the state, to hunt and plunge the flying man back again into slavery.

It admits, however, that Congress has not these powers, and until it does state orders, juries, &c., are subject to state orders. Why not then exert the power over us, which we are admitted to possess?

It states that "the representatives" of the state have withdrawn their complaint against the right of petition &c. Who are these "representatives" were, we know, but no man had been authorized to act in such manner in behalf of the petitioners. The business of the committee was to receive petitions, and those who sent them to demand their consideration.

As to the insults offered to the petitioners, the committee had been "concocted and concocted"—that "the authority of the state attempted to whip them into the streets," &c., we would simply say, if the petitioners know no better, what can they do?

As to the character that is set forth such as to the world of honorable people of the state, we have no doubt the ballot-box will tell them. What concern was it to the committee that the origin of the petitions of which they came from citizens of the state?

The minority made a counter report, accompanied with an excellent bill. We shall refer to this matter again.

The long article in this paper has crowded out the doings of the 13th meeting, communications, &c., which will appear next week.

John Fairfield has been chosen Senator for the remainder of Mr. Williams' term. Edward Kavanaugh, president of the state, by the Constitution has become Governor of Maine.

Mr. Charles Menzies, Governor General of the province of New Brunswick, is to be succeeded by Sir Charles Bagot, is to be sworn on the fourth of March to his office.

The fact that Governor Bagot gave up a runaway slave may have had much to do with his selection. The surrender occasioned much discussion in the Canada Legislature.

"Retire or 76."—A small semi-monthly paper, has been published at Dover, N. H., by Mr. J. W. Adams, and well does it sustain its name. This is a sturdy opponent of the Liberty Standard, principles, and objects of the Liberty Standard.

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#### The Reports.

The able report in this paper should be studied by every reader. It covers ground which is yet to become most important, and the subject should be well examined. It takes many views—views worthy of Massachusetts, and every man of sense will be before our readers such a report from the Legislature of Maine.

On our remarks two weeks ago on Rev. T. Stone's communication, had reference only to that part of the constitution which relates to slavery.

The bill noticed last week relating to pedlars has bearings unnoticed at the time, we having seen only the amendments proposed.

A Mos. At Perot, Ill., an anti-slavery meeting was recently broken up by a mob, instigated and abetted by many of the most influential citizens of that place, and the cause is justified by the press in that place.

Have the Secretaries of all the anti-slavery meetings been prompt in transmitting their doings for publication?

The right of *assault*—We are very bound that we will not permit to point out any error which may be at any time correct.

Daniel Howe Esq., of New Sharon, was not the person who hied at the late meeting in that place, as we stated afterwards, but he did say to others, "Let us hush."

It was not the representative from that town last year, but the candidate last year, and representative the year before.

PRESENTS.—Our sincere thanks are due for several presents received from our friends in different places.

Mr. Leavitt has returned from Washington to Boston. He has accomplished an important work by his attendance there during the session, as our readers are prepared to judge.

WHIG VICTORY IN NEW ORLEANS.—Governor Munroe, the present local Governor of Louisiana, has received a minority of votes in that same city. Now we have a "whig victory." What's the difference between that and a slavery victory?—[Eve. Jour.]

#### Notes for Whigs.

HENRY CLAY, "the life, soul, and embodiment of whig principles," in 1836.

"I consider slavery as a curse, a curse to the nation, a curse to the world, a curse to the human race. In the abstract it is ALL wrong, and no possible contingency can make it right."

1839.

"What the hell declares to be property is property."

"THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD!"

RUNAWAY from James Keudall, in Bourbon County, Ky., to whom he was hired the present year, on Saturday night last, (the 1st inst.) a negro man, named SOMERSET, about 20 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, of a dark copper color, having a deep scar on his right cheek, occasioned by a burn, stout middle, countenance bold and determined, and well clothed in a blue coat, and a pair of trousers necessary to describe, as he may have already changed.

ALSO,

From E. Mott, of the same county, on the same night, (and supposed to have been the same person,) a negro man, named BOB, about 25 years old, near 6 feet high, weighing about 150 lbs., of a dark copper color, of a pleasant countenance, uncommonly smooth face, and a remarkable small hand for a negro of his age. He speaks and reads a little English, wears a blue coat, and a pair of black trousers.

We will give the reward for the delivery of the above named runaway, or for their confinement in jail, so that we get them, or \$150 for either of them, if taken out of the State, or \$100 for each if taken out of the County and in the State.

HENRY CLAY, Senior.

Bourbon County, Ky., Sept. 17, 1839.

Running for Liberty without Legs.

A correspondent sends us an amusing account of the running of a horse slave in the State of Maryland, named George Neely, in Parkersburg, Va., and had his legs frozen in an unsuccessful attempt in early life to gain his liberty.

His wife and three children, and a female companion, left his company, and were successful, after several very narrow escapes, in reaching the favored shore. Jess was threatened, that if he did not catch him, he would be shot. He should have 100 lashes. So he gathered up his duds, and when asked where he was going, answered, "I am going to leave these duggins." Not supposing that a man without legs could attempt to stop him, away he went to the river, got into a skiff, and rowed to the Ohio shore. And then they began to think it was no joke, and gave chase. But they could not overtake him, and informers of Ohio could not overtake a man without legs, running for liberty.—[Philadelphia.]

MISSISSIPPI LAW.—The Gallatin Signal, of the 10th, furnishes another of those characteristic instances of Mississippi law, for which the State is famous. The catch line is, "The repudiating State has a bill, by which the Legislature has ordered that all persons taken from the premises of that gentleman who have been convicted of a crime, shall be sold to the benefit of the State." The neglect of the civil authorities to arrest the negroes for some time, has been a source of much trouble, and with which they were charged, is alleged as an excuse for this measure.

THE manufacture of iron by the use of a blast of cold air, as fuel, appears to have been brought to perfection in Pennsylvania.

#### CONGRESS.

Correspondence of the Emancipator.

SATURDAY, February 25.

Five working days only remain for this extraordinary Congress. This week, the last but one of the session, has been distinguished by the passage of the bill for suspending or postponing the operation of the law compelling the States to be districts, has been rejected in the House. Also, the bill on appropriations for the harbors on the lake, the Ohio River, and the South West having first secured the approval of their rivers, by taking it out of the bill, and tacking it to the military appropriation bill, the bill was then carried to the North West to get along the best way they can, in regard to the promises of 1840. Mr. Sprigg, M. C. from Kentucky, in drawing the bill, had his ear bitten off, and is so much ashamed that he no longer appears in his seat, but will probably draw his \$3 to the close of the session. The Senate have passed the bill repealing the Bankrupt law, and the bill relating to 30 to 14; the "glorious Whig" coming with the Democrats to sponge out the only important legislation that might be a memorial of their brief reign. It is understood that the bill will be carried, and has resigned. Mr. Briggs, of Massachusetts, made another attempt to bring up the Florida law for selling into slavery free negroes, and the proceedings were interrupted as a province, but effected nothing.

Many "glorious Whigs" being of opinion that such proceedings are just as proper as any other enslavement. The Warburg bill, for the purpose of relieving the northerners and vexatious Post Office bill the House.

It is thought probable there will be an extra session of Congress. The Intelligence Committee, to bring the Convention that met at Harrisburg on the 23d, the Pennsylvania CLAY Convention.

That is probably to be the new name for the party. A Clay was nominated for President, and nine others, and as he was in Faneuil Hall last summer, Governor Porter, of Pennsylvania, has voted a second bill for districting the State, and the Democrats are to be elected, and the Democratic party than he thought it ought to be.

Mr. McDuffie has given notice in the Senate, that if any law is passed issuing stock, or in any way assuming the debts of the State, he will move to have the stock thrown over the law, and to treat the stock as not binding.

Mr. Pierce.

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#### LIBERTY STANDARD.

Correspondence of the Emancipator.

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#### STATE OF MAINE.

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Many "glorious Whigs" being of opinion that such proceedings are just as proper as any other enslavement. The Warburg bill, for the purpose of relieving the northerners and vexatious Post Office bill the House.

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That is probably to be the new name for the party. A Clay was nominated for President, and nine others, and as he was in Faneuil Hall last summer, Governor Porter, of Pennsylvania, has voted a second bill for districting the State, and the Democrats are to be elected, and the Democratic party than he thought it ought to be.

Mr. McDuffie has given notice in the Senate, that if any law is passed issuing stock, or in any way assuming the debts of the State, he will move to have the stock thrown over the law, and to treat the stock as not binding.

Mr. Pierce.

I am sorry to say that Mr. Pierce, the worthy and respected representative of the anti-slavery cause, to bring the Convention that met at Harrisburg on the 23d, the Pennsylvania CLAY Convention.

That is probably to be the new name for the party. A Clay was nominated for President, and nine others, and as he was in Faneuil Hall last summer, Governor Porter, of Pennsylvania, has voted a second bill for districting the State, and the Democrats are to be elected, and the Democratic party than he thought it ought to

